



Security Council

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S/1997/730
22 September 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

LETTER DATED 22 SEPTEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you, enclosed herewith, a letter dated 22 September 1997, addressed to you from Mr. Guido Di Tella, Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of the Argentine Republic, concerning the meeting of ministers for foreign affairs of the States members of the Security Council to be held on Thursday, 25 September 1997, to consider the situation in Africa.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Fernando PETRELLA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

[Original: Spanish]

Letter dated 22 September 1997 from the Minister for
Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of
Argentina addressed to the President of the
Security Council

I have the honour to write to you to convey the support of the Argentine Government for the initiative of convening a meeting of ministers for foreign affairs of the members of the Security Council with a view to promoting peace and security in Africa through a firm and coordinated effort by the international community.

This initiative could not be more timely: over 60 per cent of the Security Council's agenda is devoted to situations in Africa. These situations have various causes. Some originate from the explosion of ethnic tensions that had been contained for a long time; others involve problems inherited from the cold war era. Others, finally, are the result of the violent disruption of democratic processes. This climate of instability has led to a decrease in investment and a stagnation of economic and social development. Over and above their differences, all the conflict situations in various parts of the world, and particularly in Africa, have a common denominator: suffering and despair, which in some extreme cases even lead to a denial of humanity.

At the same time, most countries in Africa are endeavouring to strengthen their democratic institutions, promote human rights, carry out fundamental economic reforms and provide a better standard of living for their people. These efforts deserve to be encouraged.

The international community cannot look the other way. Everyone has a moral responsibility to recreate faith in a new future for our African brothers.

The Security Council has taken major steps to maintain peace in the region through the deployment of peacekeeping operations, the establishment of an international tribunal to try those responsible for crimes of the utmost gravity which are an affront to the conscience of all, and the implementation of specific sanctions in cases where there is no alternative.

Moreover, the Organization of African Unity has promoted important initiatives through the establishment of conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms. The conclusion of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty in Africa is also extremely valuable.

This means, therefore, that part of the road has been travelled. Now we must all persevere through a generous effort to achieve political pacification and ethnic harmony so as to make possible the consolidation of democratic processes and sustainable human development in the African continent. In this connection, we believe that the various United Nations bodies, within their

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respective areas of competence and in close coordination with regional and subregional organizations, have a role and, I dare say, an obligation to fulfil.

In our view, the international community's response to Africa should have two main dimensions: first, conflict prevention and settlement, properly speaking, and second, laying the groundwork for the elimination of the causes of such conflicts. In both cases, the cooperation of the parties involved is essential.

In the first area, conflict prevention mechanisms, the establishment of peacekeeping operations, efforts to consolidate peace once a conflict has ended and humanitarian assistance are vital elements. Our task, however, does not end there. We should also make a concerted effort to promote economic, technical and social development, both in the countries directly affected by a conflict and in those which suffer its consequences in an indirect but no less tangible fashion.

Consistent with our view of the issue, Argentina has sought to make a contribution in the two areas mentioned above. For this reason, my country has contributed "blue helmets" to various peacekeeping operations and has indicated its willingness to do so in any future operations which the United Nations may deem necessary. We have also sought to contribute to African development through the "white helmets" initiative and various technical cooperation, humanitarian assistance and economic assistance programmes.

Today we reaffirm our unswerving commitment to the peaceful settlement of conflicts, the protection and promotion of human rights and economic progress in Africa, and we reiterate our wish to participate actively in the efforts of the United Nations to achieve these goals.

(Signed) Guido DI TELLA
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
International Trade and Worship



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LETTER DATED 22 SEPTEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF VIET NAM TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the event related to ship Kwang Myong, which has already been brought to your attention, with the following clarifications and facts:

1. The ship, Kwang Myong, which was contracted to carry 4,000 tons of detergent from Viet Nam under the terms of Security Council resolution 986 (1995), was not a Vietnamese ship, but a ship of another nationality and flag.
2. The ship's crew, some of whose property was the subject in question, was of another nationality, not Vietnamese.
3. The whole proceedings for the export of the above-mentioned 4,000 tons of detergent from Viet Nam were in full compliance with the terms of Security Council resolution 986 (1995), as well as all other related provisions set by the United Nations in effect.

The facts mentioned above are only to clarify the events in those areas inasmuch as they are related to Viet Nam, thus clearing away any ambiguities and incorrectly reported information.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ngo Quang XUAN
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations





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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

QUESTION OF CYPRUS

Letter dated 19 September 1997 from the Permanent
Representative of Turkey to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

My Government's views on the purchase of the sophisticated S-300 missile system by the Greek Cypriot administration have already been expressed through statements issued by the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 6 and 10 January 1997.

Official declarations from the Greek Cypriot administration and the Russian Federation indicate that the preparations for the installation of the S-300 missile system in south Cyprus are continuing.

Technical specifications of this missile system are such that it constitutes a direct threat not only to the security of the Turkish Cypriots but also to the security of Turkey itself. With a range of 150 kilometres, the missiles have the capacity to penetrate the airspace of neighbouring countries. Accordingly, the Greek Cypriot side will acquire the capability of hitting targets in Turkey, which is only 64 kilometres away. It is obvious that the developments pertaining to the acquisition of these missiles will exacerbate the existing tension in the island, and also create instability in the region, thus further complicating the efforts aimed at finding a solution to the Cyprus question. Many countries have already voiced similar views and expressed their concern over the repercussions of the deployment of the missiles. The Security Council, in its resolution 1092 (1996) of 23 December 1996 and resolution 1117 (1997) of 27 June 1997, also reiterated its grave concern about the excessive levels of military forces and armaments in south Cyprus and the rate at which they are being expanded, upgraded and modernized, including by the introduction of sophisticated weaponry.



There have been attempts to portray the sale of armaments and missiles to south Cyprus as the mere fulfilment of a trade contract. It is obvious that this is not as simple as it is presented. The Cyprus issue has been on the agenda of the Security Council since early 1964. It is assumed that, in particular, the members of the Security Council have, above all, political and moral responsibilities for the preservation of international peace and security and thus should refrain from any action that might further complicate the search for a peaceful solution to conflicts. Furthermore, arms sales to south Cyprus also constitute a violation of the 1993 Principles Governing Conventional Arms Transfers of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), where it is categorically stated that each participating State has to consider "the internal and regional situation in and around the recipient country, in the light of existing tensions or armed conflicts" and are obliged to "avoid transfers which would be likely to endanger peace, introduce destabilizing military capabilities into a region, or otherwise contribute to regional instability".

By the same token, it has to be noted that by supporting the purchase of the aforementioned missile system by the Greek Cypriot administration and taking concrete steps for furthering the so-called "joint defence doctrine" with the administration in the south of the island, Greece is engendering instability in Cyprus. At the same time it has been reported in the Greek press that the newly constructed Paphos airbase in south Cyprus will become operational during the large-scale joint Greek-Greek Cypriot military exercises, code-named "Nikiforos", which are to be carried out in October 1997. Such initiatives will only deepen the distrust among the parties and further increase the tension in the island.

There should be no doubt that Turkey cannot remain indifferent to developments that will endanger the security of the Turkish Cypriot community and its own, and will take corresponding measures. Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot side are also determined not to allow the installation of missiles in south Cyprus to be used as a bargaining element in the negotiation process.

In the light of the present tense situation in Cyprus and the gravity of the recent developments that I referred to above, my Government wishes to request that you, Mr. Secretary-General, urgently take initiatives with the parties concerned with a view to preventing the deployment of S-300 missiles on the island.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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SECURITY COUNCIL
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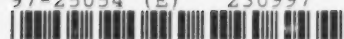
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATION FOR
INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Identical letters dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent
Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of
the Security Council

Upon instruction from my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith the Declaration of Principles of the United Islamic and National Front for the Salvation of Afghanistan (UINFSA), dated 20 September 1997, which was subsequently adopted by the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ravan FARHÂDI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



ANNEX

Declaration of Principles made by the United Islamic and
National Front for the Salvation of Afghanistan (UINFSA),
adopted on 20 September 1997 by the Islamic State of
Afghanistan

With the aim of institutionalizing the political life of the nation in conformity with the sacred tenets of Islam, in accordance with the requirements of the modern time,

Recalling the glorious struggle for freedom of the people of Afghanistan, especially the recent two decades of resistance against foreign domination,

With the goal of realizing equal political, social and cultural rights for all ethnic groups and segments of the Afghan society,

For the purpose of securing a comprehensive and lasting peace and consolidating the unity of Afghanistan,

In order to establish a political system based on the free will of the people of Afghanistan as the source of national sovereignty and in which the aspiration of the people will determine the future political destiny of the country; to secure the rights and basic freedoms of the people and their participation in the political life of the country, and to establish a political system based upon the principles of democracy and pluralism,

The United Islamic and National Front for the Salvation of Afghanistan declares the following principles as the framework for the future political system in Afghanistan:

1. The principle of Islam:

The Islamic tenets and teachings are the guidelines of supreme and value in compliance with which the future political system, the constitution and other laws, executive and judiciary practices in Afghanistan shall be founded. The economic, social and cultural rehabilitation, development and progress shall be fulfilled accordingly.

2. The principle of independence and international cooperation:

(a) Adherence to self-reliance and non-independence as a right, to secure the freedom and independence of Afghanistan in adopting internal and foreign policies;

(b) Governance of State affairs, setting national goals and initiation of projects of economic and political development without outside influence; international relations shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international covenants and instruments;

/...

(c) Expansion of the multilateral relations of Afghanistan with its neighbours and that of economic cooperation, including transit trade, gas and petroleum.

3. The principles of democracy and pluralism:

For the purposes of realizing the will of the people and their right to self-determination, creating a responsible Government, preventing a monopoly of power and administrative corruption, electing representatives to the electoral bodies, ensuring free and fair periodical election of the leadership; the principles of democracy and pluralism shall constitute the mainspring of the future political system to be formed in Afghanistan.

4. The principles of election and delegation of authority to local administrations:

(a) The central representative Government, to be equitably accommodating to all ethnic groups and segments of Afghan society, shall function constitutionally;

(b) The delegation of authority to local administrations, as a principle, shall be incorporated in the constitution. The constitution will stipulate a just formation of major administrative units. The local administrations and those in charge, including the provincial councils, shall all be elective. However, jurisdiction of the higher administrations shall be determined by the law.

5. The principle of human rights:

UINFSA, inspired by the tenets of Islam and the sacred Koranic prescriptions, firmly believes in the dignity of the human being and the observation of human rights, including the rights of women and their rights to education and active participation in the social life of the country, in harmony with the essence of the international human rights instruments.

UINFSA remains open to adherence of other political parties recognizing the principles set out herein. UINFSA calls upon all Afghans in Afghanistan and abroad to respond positively to this appeal, with the intention of making the cause of national unity in Afghanistan a reality.

UINFSA, while seeking to ensure a lasting peace in the country, in line with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, would spare no efforts to bring about the circumstances under which a Grand National Assembly (Loya Jirgah) of the rightful representatives of the people of Afghanistan would be called to adopt a constitution.



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LETTER DATED 16 SEPTEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Solemn Declaration, the Protocol of Agreement and the letter of transmittal of the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale (ERDDUN), a coalition of both the overwhelming majority of opposition parties and those supporting the President, which, in a bold gesture transcending traditional political divisions, intend to join forces to re-establish peace and save national unity and the democratic process, which have been seriously undermined by the tragic events currently taking place in the Republic of the Congo.

I should be grateful if you would have these texts circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Daniel ABIBI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex

Solemn Declaration issued by the Espace républicain pour
la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale in
Brazzaville on 28 August 1997

Our country, the Congo, has, since 5 June 1997, been in the throes of a grave and profound crisis which has placed in jeopardy democracy and its corollary, the rule of law. As a result, the electoral process and democratic institutions are facing dangerous threats.

Therefore,

- Considering the serious consequences of the crisis, including:

Countless victims, most of whom are civilians;

Massive flows of displaced persons, who are being sheltered in precarious conditions in reception centres and with families;

Looting on an unimaginable scale, which has totally destroyed the economy of Brazzaville, our capital;

The destruction of public buildings, national archives and private property;

The rending of the social fabric;

- Taking into account the many initiatives aimed at finding ways to bring about a speedy end to the crisis, in particular:

The appeal for a ceasefire by the Prime Minister, Mr. David-Charles Ganao, on 7 June 1997;

The declaration of a ceasefire by the President of the Republic, Mr. Pascal Lissouba, on 11 June 1997, followed by the declaration of a ceasefire by the former head of State, Mr. Denis Sassou-Nguesso;

The many initiatives involving national mediation under the chairmanship of member of parliament and Mayor of Brazzaville, Mr. Bernard Kolelas, and international mediation under the chairmanship of the President of the Gabonese Republic, Mr. Omar Bongo;

The declarations issued by the parties, associations and civil society;

- Noting that the situation continues to worsen in spite of all these efforts;

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- Convinced that, in the light of these recent political developments, the Congo faces the risk of partition, the disappearance of democratic institutions and a total breakdown of the democratic process;

We,

The political groups, parties and associations signatories to the present Solemn Declaration, having regard to the Charter of National Unity, which, with the aim of strengthening national unity, calls upon "the public authorities, political groups and associations, religious denominations and the entire national community to:

- Defend national sovereignty;
- Consolidate national independence;
- Safeguard national unity and territorial integrity;
- Protect the republican form of government;
- Maintain the secular character of the State;
- Defend democracy;
- Protect public freedoms";

Hereby pledge to:

- Work to restore among the Congolese people the sense of duty and civic spirit which alone can foster the kind of efforts it will take to promote the emergence of the conditions necessary for genuine national reconciliation with a view to national unity;

- Contribute to the restoration of peace, security and the country's return to normality;

Acting without regard for traditional political divisions and in accordance with the provisions of the above-mentioned Charter, we, the political groups, parties and associations, decide to join together in the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale, to be designated by the acronym ERDDUN.

The Espace républicain will be a body for analysis, concerted action, coordination, harmonization and consensus.

The Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale sets as its goal the salvation of the Republic and democracy.

I. DEFINITION AND COMPOSITION OF THE ESPACE RÉPUBLICAIN

The Espace républicain is a union of political groups, parties and associations anxious to combine their efforts to safeguard national unity and

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the democratic process. The Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale does not seek uniformity of political thought or the disappearance of parties.

The Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale is open to all political groups, parties and associations that are committed to defending democracy, the Republic, lawfully established institutions, and hence the rule of law.

II. PURPOSES OF THE ESPACE RÉPUBLICAIN

The Espace républicain has set as its main objectives saving republican institutions, re-establishing peace and ensuring the smooth functioning of the State apparatus and the continuation of the electoral process.

To that end, the Espace républicain will take steps:

- To identify measures that are conducive to a speedy end of the crisis;
- To establish an emergency programme to deal with the problems resulting from the crisis, including the problems of security, movement of goods and persons, supply, and the restoration of services in normal conditions;
- To draw up a government programme for the period preceding the presidential election;
- To draw up a new timetable for electoral activities. This timetable will influence the choice of a date for the presidential election, in accordance with the decision of the Constitutional Council;
- To harmonize the work of the parliamentary groups of the parties which are members of the Espace républicain with a view to lending unequivocal and broad support for the actions of the Government of National Union;
- To conduct an in-depth study with proposals for measures to ensure the country's stability following the presidential election.

The political groups, parties and associations signatories to this Solemn Declaration decide to give effect to it by concluding a Protocol of Agreement.

Protocol of Agreement concluded by the Espace républicain
pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale
at Brazzaville on 29 August 1997

PREAMBLE

This Protocol of Agreement is part of a new political initiative characterized chiefly by the need to safeguard pluralistic democracy, civil order and national unity, which were severely threatened by the events of 5 June 1997.

It thus reflects a political commitment to live together in harmony within the Congolese nation in a State governed by the rule of law.

It has a twofold political objective:

- The establishment of a free, democratic and prosperous Congo imbued with the spirit of solidarity;
- The promotion of harmonious national economic and socio-cultural development, brotherhood and national harmony characterized by respect for different opinions and the right to diversity.

Accordingly, having learned from the past and drawing inspiration from the present to preserve the future, the political parties and associations signatories to the Solemn Declaration of August 1997 agree to coordinate and harmonize their activities within the context of a political union known as the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale (ERDDUN).

TITLE I. General provisions

Article 1. A political union known as the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale shall be created in the Republic of the Congo by the political groups, parties and associations signatories to the Solemn Declaration of August 1997.

Article 2. This Protocol of Agreement shall be open to all political groups, parties and associations that agree to abide by the provisions thereof.

TITLE II. Purposes

Article 3. The Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale shall have the following objectives:

- To defend democracy;
- To safeguard territorial integrity and national unity;
- To defend the Republic and the secular character of the State.

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Article 4. The Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale shall operate on the basis of a policy aimed at preserving pluralistic democracy, in a manner consistent with the achievements of the Sovereign National Conference and in strict compliance with the Constitution of 15 March 1992 and the institutions created thereby.

The Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale shall also seek to identify measures to promote initiatives aimed at helping the public authorities prevent and overcome social tensions, whatever their source, that are detrimental to the peace and social unity.

TITLE III. State management

Article 5. The political groups, parties and associations comprising the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale agree to the sharing and joint exercise of power, taking into account their respective representation at the national and local levels.

Article 6. The groups, parties and associations comprising the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale agree to promote a style of management that is consistent with the principles of moral probity, competence and good governance.

They therefore solemnly undertake to restore the credibility of the State, to ensure the safety of persons and the security of property, and to establish a republican security force.

TITLE IV. Specific measures

Article 7. Each of the political groups, parties and associations comprising the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale shall retain its freedom to solicit votes from its constituents while ensuring that its actions are fair and above board, as is required in elections.

Article 8. The political groups, parties and associations shall maintain their ties to their current political affiliations.

TITLE V. Final provisions

Article 9. The political groups, parties and associations comprising the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale decide to focus their efforts on concerted action and ongoing dialogue. They agree to respect pledges that are made and commitments that are undertaken, and to settle all disputes amicably.

Article 10. This Protocol of Agreement shall remain in force from the date of signature until the holding of the presidential election and may subsequently be renegotiated among the parties that so desire.

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Article 11. This Protocol of Agreement, which is consistent with the laws and regulations in force in the Republic of the Congo and open to all political groups, parties and associations that endorse its objectives, shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

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Letter of transmittal dated 8 September 1997 from the Espace
républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité
nationale addressed to His Excellency, the President of
the Republic of the Congo, the Head of State

The undersigned political groups, parties and associations comprising the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale (ERDDUN),

Considering their current position on the Congolese political map and bearing in mind the noble objectives pursued by this platform, as emphasized in the Solemn Declaration and Protocol of Agreement pertaining thereto,

Having considered and analysed at length the state of advancement of the Libreville negotiations,

Note with regret that these negotiations have reached an impasse or standstill, most recently over the appointment of the Prime Minister, his functions and his political affiliation;

Agree that the person who assumes this high post, in addition to meeting the essential criteria of having attained both an electoral and a political majority in the country, should be an individual capable of promoting and preserving peace, harmony and national unity and safeguarding democracy. This new political consideration will make it possible to restore the confidence of the people and the international community;

Therefore, the political groups, parties and associations comprising the Espace républicain pour la défense de la démocratie et de l'unité nationale, seek to implement the law of majority rule which they, through their political platform, incarnate and represent, and taking into account the aforementioned criteria:

- Lay legitimate claim to the office of Prime Minister, head of the Government of national unity;

- Propose unanimously that President Bernard Kolelas, founding member of ERDDUN, President of MODDI, Chairman of the National Mediation Committee, having received the second highest number of votes in the 1992 presidential election and being a man of peace, should assume this office.



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LETTER DATED 19 SEPTEMBER 1997 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to my letter of 1 August 1997 (S/1997/621) to the President of the Security Council concerning the composition of the military and police elements of the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti (UNTMIH) and to the President's reply thereto dated 6 August 1997 (S/1997/622).

Having completed the customary consultations, I propose that Argentina, Niger, Senegal and Tunisia be added to the list of Member States contributing police personnel to UNTMIH.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN





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24 September 1997

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LETTER DATED 24 SEPTEMBER 1997 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 19 September 1997 (S/1997/735) concerning the proposal to add Argentina, Niger, Senegal and Tunisia to the list of Member States contributing police personnel to the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti (UNTMIH) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. They agree with the proposal contained in your letter.

(Signed) Bill RICHARDSON
President of the Security Council





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LETTER DATED 22 SEPTEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT OBSERVER FOR
THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Pursuant to Article 54 of the Charter of the United Nations, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the statement concerning the situation in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its special session held in Cairo on 10 September 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hussein HASSOUNA
Ambassador
Permanent Observer for the
League of Arab States



Annex

Statement adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States
on 10 September 1997 concerning the situation in the Islamic
Federal Republic of the Comoros

The Council of the League has held an extraordinary meeting at the level of Permanent Representatives at the request of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. Proceeding from its commitment to the unity, integrity and sovereignty of all member States and having considered the developments in the current crisis in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros caused by the announcement by certain elements on the islands of Anjouan (Nzwani) and Mohéli (Mwali) of their secession from the Comoros federation, the Council affirms that it upholds the unity and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Comoros and that the endeavour should be made to settle the dispute between the Comorian parties by peaceful means.

Given that the Comorian crisis is essentially caused by the difficult economic situation of the Republic of the Comoros, the Council calls upon the international community to provide all forms of economic support and to participate in the round-table conference that is to be held shortly with a view to meeting the urgent economic needs of the Republic of the Comoros and enabling it to establish the conditions that will create balanced development among the various Comorian islands.

In the framework of the coordination and integration of existing inter-Arab and inter-African action by the general secretariats of the League of Arab States and the Organization of African Unity, the Council affirms its support for the good offices being exercised by the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity.

The Council urges all the Comorian parties to do everything possible to ensure the success of the international conference to consider the Comorian crisis and secure a negotiated political solution among the parties to the dispute under the auspices of the League of Arab States and the Organization of African Unity.

The Council requests the Secretary-General of the League to monitor developments in the situation in the Republic of the Comoros and to take whatever initiatives he deems appropriate, including the dispatch of a special envoy to the Republic of the Comoros in order to support the efforts of the Organization of African Unity and participate in devising a solution to the current Comorian crisis.



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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

QUESTION OF CYPRUS

Letter dated 22 September 1997 from the Permanent
Representative of Turkey to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 22 September 1997, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex which contains a letter of His Excellency Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, dated 19 September 1997, would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



ANNEX

Letter dated 22 September 1997 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the letter dated 19 September 1997 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, in connection with the Greek Cypriot side's decision to purchase the sophisticated S-300 missile system from the Russian Federation.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its appendix could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

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APPENDIX

Letter dated 19 September 1997 from Mr. Rauf R. Denktas
addressed to the Secretary-General

In previous correspondence the Turkish Cypriot side has expressed to Your Excellency its extreme concern regarding the Greek Cypriot side's decision to procure a sophisticated missile system from the Russian Federation, and the very serious repercussions this will have on the stability of the island and region. Regarding these negative developments, I would like to reiterate our concerns.

Despite extensive international reaction and condemnation, the Greek Cypriot side continues to assert its determination to deploy the S-300 missile system, which is scheduled to arrive on the island in mid-1998. The Greek Cypriot leader Glafcos Clerides stated: "our acquisition of the missiles is not negotiable", while in a recent interview with a Greek Cypriot daily (Agon, 24 August 1997), his Foreign Minister, Yannakis Cassoulides, also reaffirmed the Greek Cypriot side's irresponsible determination to deploy the missiles. Representatives from the Russian Federation have also repeated their Government's pledge to sell the missiles despite the highly dangerous ramifications it will institute.

As a permanent member of the Security Council, which has placed the Cyprus problem high on its agenda for over 34 years, the Russian Federation should recognize its responsibility to maintain peace on the island rather than encouraging conflict by conducting potentially destabilizing transactions. The sale of the arms to the Greek Cypriot side by the Russian Federation is also in direct contravention of numerous Security Council resolutions that call for a halt in military proliferation on the island. In two of the latest resolutions (1092 (1996) of 23 December 1996 and 1117 (1997) of 26 June 1997) the Council reiterated concern regarding "the continuing excessive levels of military forces and armaments in the Republic of Cyprus and the rate at which they are being expanded, upgraded and modernized, including by the introduction of sophisticated weaponry".

Similarly the sale is also a blatant violation of the 1993 Principles Governing Conventional Arms Transfers of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), of which the Russian Federation is a signatory, where it categorically states that each participating State had to consider "the internal and regional situation in and around the recipient country, in the light of existing tensions or armed conflicts" and were subsequently obliged to "avoid transfers which would be likely to endanger peace, introduce destabilizing military capabilities into a region, or otherwise contribute to regional instability".

The acquisition of the technologically sophisticated missile system by the Greek Cypriots, which threatens to take the arms build-up on Cyprus to a new and disturbing qualitative level, adds a highly destabilizing dimension to the military equation on the island and region between guarantor States Turkey and Greece. The S-300 missile system will give the Greek Cypriot side long-range

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capabilities for the first time, enabling them to strike military installations on mainland Turkey, which renders them a tangible and direct threat to the security of Turkey and is an unacceptable challenge to Turkey's rights and obligations as a guarantor power. The offensive threat engendered by the Greek Cypriot side's purchase of the S-300 missile system has to be viewed in the context of its ongoing massive armament efforts within the framework of the Greek-Greek Cypriot "joint defence doctrine". Since its implementation in 1993, the Greek Cypriot administration, together with Greece, has accelerated the build-up of arms and armed forces in southern Cyprus bringing current military expenditure in southern Cyprus in excess of \$2 million a day, which in per capita terms is amongst the highest in the world.

This pact has also paved the way for the construction of air and sea bases in southern Cyprus, intended for Greek fighter planes and warships. According to recent reports circulated in the Greek Cypriot media, the base located in the Paphos region will become operational during the course of the annual Greek-Greek Cypriot military exercises, code-named "Nikiforos", which are scheduled to take place in October.

The Government of Turkey has repeatedly stressed that it will not remain passive in the face of these provocative and hostile actions and has expressed its determination, as a guarantor Power, to continue to exercise its rights and obligations to protect the Turkish Cypriots and to preserve the balance and stability in the region. The Greek Cypriot leadership aims to utilize its purchase of the S-300 missile system as a bargaining tool in order to manipulate the negotiation process to its advantage. We, on our part, will not allow the Greek Cypriot side to realize this pernicious objective, especially in view of the threat it engenders to the peace on the island.

It is irrefutably true that these developments, generated by the Greek Cypriot administration, have had a gravely negative effect on the political atmosphere of the island. This atmosphere will further be poisoned if the Greek Cypriot side fails to reverse its decision to deploy the said missiles. We hope that Your Excellency will do his utmost in impressing upon the Greek Cypriot leadership not to go ahead with the deployment of the missiles, which will, indeed, be a most irresponsible action..

(Signed) Rauf R. DENKTAŞ
President



**General Assembly
Security Council**

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 26 September 1997 from the Permanent
Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

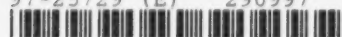
I wish to refer to the letter of the Permanent Representative of Turkey dated 19 September 1997 (A/52/383-S/1997/732) and draw your attention to the unacceptable threat of the use of force by Turkey against Cyprus.

In that letter, the Permanent Representative of Turkey expresses the position and concern of his country over the decision of the legal and internationally recognized Government of Cyprus to purchase the S-300 missile system, maintaining, *inter alia*, that it "constitutes a direct threat" to the Turkish Cypriots and Turkey itself, and "will exacerbate the existing tension in the island, and also create instability in the region, thus further complicating the efforts aimed at finding a solution to the Cyprus question".

In the face of the Turkish invasion and continuing occupation of 37 per cent of the territory of Cyprus, with all the tragic consequences for the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots alike, it is really astonishing that Turkey now presents itself as concerned about the security and stability in the region.

It is Turkey itself that is the real threat to Cyprus, the Turkish Cypriots and the peace and security in the region, through its expansionist policy and aggressive action. Moreover, it is well known that it is the Turkish side that by its prolonged intransigence and negative attitude undermined all efforts for finding a solution to the Cyprus problem.

The Turkish Permanent Representative by his letter also reminds the members of the Security Council of their "political and moral responsibilities for the preservation of international peace and security".



Turkey, however, has never fulfilled its own political and moral responsibilities arising from its membership in the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other international organizations. It has never respected the repeated calls and demands of the Security Council, contained in numerous resolutions, all of which have been flagrantly ignored and remain unimplemented by the Turkish side.

For exclusively defensive purposes, the Government of Cyprus proceeded with its decision to purchase the S-300 missile system, following the repeated threats by Turkey against Cyprus. Under Article 51 of the Charter, it is the right and the duty of the independent and sovereign Republic of Cyprus to take all necessary steps for its adequate defence, when the occupied part of Cyprus has become one of the most militarized areas in the world, as described in your reports, and when Cyprus is under direct military threat of Turkey.

It is ludicrous to believe that small Cyprus, with no air force, can possibly pose a threat to a major military power such as Turkey. The S-300 ground-to-air missiles can only be used for defensive purposes against incoming attacking aircraft.

I should like, in this respect, to refer to the proposal by President Clerides for the complete demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus, which has not as yet been accepted by Turkey. I should like also to point out that the deployment of the missiles will not be necessary if substantial progress in the efforts for finding a solution to the Cyprus problem is achieved. As is well known, the Turkish side has impeded such progress, as reflected in the recent statement to the press by the President of the Security Council, on 20 August 1997.

The letter of the Turkish Permanent Representative ends with an unmistakably clear and direct threat against Cyprus, that Turkey "will take corresponding measures", which amounts to a threat of the use of force, contrary to the rules of international law and in particular Article 2, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the United Nations. The only "corresponding measures" familiar to Turkey are resort to violence and the use of force.

I wish to strongly protest this most blatant threat of the use of force by Turkey and its escalating aggressive attitude and actions against the Republic of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Security Council

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24 September 1997

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS IRAQ-KUWAIT OBSERVATION MISSION

(27 March-23 September 1997)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report gives an account of developments and activities in respect of the mandate entrusted to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), in accordance with Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 8 April 1991, 689 (1991) of 14 June 1991 and 806 (1993) of 5 February 1993. It covers the period from 27 March 1997 to 23 September 1997.

II. DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE

2. During the period under review, the situation in the demilitarized zone was generally calm. Constant patrolling by UNIKOM, frequent liaison meetings held at various levels and firm measures taken by the host authorities have helped to reduce incursions, which were frequent in the waterway between April and June. Complaints launched by the parties about cross-border shootings, as well as press reports on border infiltrations, could not be confirmed by UNIKOM investigations.

3. No serious incidents were observed during the reporting period. UNIKOM recorded 22 minor incidents, 8 of which occurred on the Kuwaiti side and 14 on the Iraqi side, including minor cases of stone-throwing by Iraqi children at UNIKOM patrols. No injuries were sustained and damage to property was usually slight.

4. Following reports by the press in Kuwait that Iraq had been sending troop reinforcements to southern provinces near the borders with Kuwait and Saudi Arabia since 2 August, UNIKOM stepped up its vigilance in the northern portion of the demilitarized zone. However the military observers, who continuously patrolled and monitored the area, could not confirm the reports and did not notice any unusual movements in the vicinity of the demilitarized zone. Later in the month the press, quoting international intelligence sources, reported that no major movement of Iraqi troops had been observed near the Iraqi border with Kuwait.



5. There was a decrease in the number of violations in the demilitarized zone since the last report. During the period under review, UNIKOM recorded 87 violations, slightly more than half of the previous 161. Of those, 49 were air violations, 11 of which were overflights by F-14, F-15, F-16 and F-18 military aircraft. Such aircraft are used by the coalition forces, but the nationalities could not be confirmed. The remaining air violations related to aircraft flying too high to be identified. Twenty-six violations occurred in the Khawr Abd Allah waterway. All waterway violations were committed by Iraqi fishing boats that intruded into Kuwaiti waters, usually while fishing west of Warbah Island. Twelve were ground violations, five of which were sightings of personnel with rifles, two on the Iraqi side and three on the Kuwaiti side. One was an observation of four Iraqis in military uniform who turned out to be Iraqi police. The remaining six violations were tracer sightings on the Iraqi side of the demilitarized zone. Most of those firings appeared to be part of hunting activities or celebrations.

6. Thirty-five complaints were recorded during the period under review, showing an increase of 12 cases over the previous report (S/1997/255). Of those, 27 came from Kuwait and eight from Iraq. Fifteen of the complaints were lodged by Kuwait about Iraqi fishing boats seen in the Kuwaiti part of the waterway west of Warbah Island. One complaint by Iraq regarding local liaison was eventually resolved. The rest, as already stated, could not be confirmed by UNIKOM investigations.

7. Activities in the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr increased significantly owing to shipments arriving under the terms of Security Council resolution 986 (1995) of 14 April 1995. Eighty-two ships were visited during the period. A new truck park close to the main gate of the port is being built to help ease congestion in and around the area. UNIKOM continued to monitor port activities in the demilitarized zone, cooperating as appropriate with teams from the United Nations Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq working in the area.

8. Oil-drilling activities continued on both sides of the border, mainly on the Kuwaiti side and at the Al Ratqa oilfield. Work on two new sites on the Iraqi side, south-west of patrol and observation base N6, has been continuing since the end of May.

9. Kuwait continued work on an electric fence running one kilometre parallel to the border on the Kuwaiti side of the demilitarized zone. At the end of the reporting period, the fence was almost half the length of the demilitarized zone. Crossing sites through the fence were being arranged at positions adjacent to Kuwaiti police posts, with each gate being controlled from the police post nearby. Those gates were to be open to UNIKOM personnel at all times. The Kuwaiti authorities expected the construction to be completed by February 1998.

10. A year ago, my predecessor, agreed to the UNIKOM recommendation to improve the monitoring of the Khawr Abd Allah waterway (see S/1996/801). This required the setting up of an additional observation post on Warbah Island, upgrading the radar and night-vision equipment at the two observation posts located at Al Faw and at the entrance of the Al Zubayr waterway and obtaining boats to enable UNIKOM to patrol the waterway. Construction on Warbah Island has begun. Two

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patrol boats and two support craft are being fitted out, and arrangements for purchasing the radar units are being finalized. Barring delays, the monitoring system should be operational in the first half of 1998.

11. UNIKOM has continued to dispose of unexploded mines and bomblets in the demilitarized zone. During the reporting period, a total of 930 unexploded devices were detonated. Unexploded mines and bomblets, mostly on the Iraqi side of the demilitarized zone, were still resulting in casualties to civilians living and working in the area.

12. UNIKOM provided security and logistic support for four meetings of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Technical Subcommittee on Military and Civilian Missing Prisoners of War and Mortal Remains. The meetings were held on 30 April, 2 June, 16 July and 18 August 1997. They were conducted in the demilitarized zone, alternately at UNIKOM headquarters in Umm Qasr, Iraq, and at the support base in Camp Khor, Kuwait. ICRC representatives from Iraq and Kuwait, delegations of Iraq and Kuwait and observers from France, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America attended the meetings.

13. UNIKOM continued to maintain constant and close liaison with the authorities of both Iraq and Kuwait at various levels, including through its liaison offices in Baghdad and Kuwait City. Both parties cooperated with the Mission in the conduct of its operations.

III. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

14. As at August 1997, the overall strength of UNIKOM was 1,283, as follows:

(a) A total of 194 military observers, from Argentina (3), Austria (6), Bangladesh (5), Canada (4), China (11), Denmark (5), Fiji (5), Finland (5), France (11), Ghana (5), Greece (5), Hungary (6), India (5), Indonesia (5), Ireland (6), Italy (5), Kenya (6), Malaysia (5), Nigeria (6), Pakistan (6), Poland (5), Romania (5), the Russian Federation (11), Senegal (5), Singapore (5), Sweden (6), Thailand (5), Turkey (7), the United Kingdom (11), the United States (11), Uruguay (5) and Venezuela (3);

(b) An infantry battalion of 765 from Bangladesh;

(c) An engineering unit of 42 from Argentina;

(d) A logistics unit of 34 from Austria;

(e) A helicopter unit of 35 from Bangladesh;

(f) A medical unit of 14 from Germany;

(g) A total of 199 civilian staff, of whom 52 were recruited internationally.

Major-General Gian Giuseppe Santillo (Italy) continued as Force Commander.

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IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

15. The General Assembly, in its resolution 51/234 of 13 June 1997, appropriated \$51,487,500 gross for the maintenance of UNIKOM for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, subject to review by the Security Council with regard to the question of termination or continuation of the Mission. Two thirds of the cost of the Mission, equivalent to some \$33.1 million, is to be funded through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait. Assessments on Member States have been made for the period ending 31 October 1997, and the Government of Kuwait has paid its voluntary contributions for the period ending 31 October 1997.

16. As at 31 August 1997, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for UNIKOM since the inception of the Mission through 31 October 1997 amounted to \$11.9 million, representing some 5 per cent of the assessment for the Mission. The unpaid assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations amounted to \$1.9 billion.

V. OBSERVATIONS

17. UNIKOM continued to contribute to the maintenance of calm and stability in the demilitarized zone. The situation along the border was generally quiet. UNIKOM received the cooperation of the Iraqi and Kuwaiti authorities in discharging its duties. I recommend that the Mission be maintained.

18. In conclusion, I wish to pay tribute to Major-General Santillo and the men and women under his command for the manner in which they have discharged their responsibilities. Their discipline and bearing have been of a high order, reflecting credit on themselves, on their countries and on the United Nations.



Security Council

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24 September 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS
OBSERVER MISSION IN ANGOLA

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 7 of Security Council resolution 1127 (1997) of 28 August 1997, in which the Council, *inter alia*, requested me to report on whether the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) had taken concrete and irreversible steps to comply with all its obligations set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the resolution before the coming into force of the measures specified in paragraph 4 of the resolution. In particular, the Council demanded that UNITA implement immediately its obligations under the Lusaka Protocol (S/1994/1441, annex), including the demilitarization of its forces, transformation of its radio station Vorgan into a non-partisan broadcasting facility and full cooperation in the process of the normalization of State administration throughout Angola.

II. DEMILITARIZATION OF UNITA

2. On 11 August 1997, UNITA submitted new information to my Special Representative for Angola, Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye, on the strength and deployment of armed personnel under UNITA control and on weapons in its possession. The total strength was initially declared to be 5,448 troops, but this figure was subsequently increased to 6,052, including the personnel in the security detachment of the President of UNITA, the so-called "mining police", and "residual forces". Mr. Beye and the representatives of the three observer States (Portugal, the Russian Federation and the United States of America) reviewed this information on 14 August and found the data incomplete. They called upon UNITA to provide more credible information, but at the same time requested the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA) to verify the data that had been supplied and to register and disarm the UNITA armed elements who had been presented for demobilization.

3. To that end, two special MONUA verification teams were deployed to the northern and eastern regions on 25 August to be followed by the dispatch of another three teams to the north-eastern, central and south-eastern regions. Initially the United Nations teams encountered numerous difficulties related to poor communication and coordination between UNITA headquarters and field



commanders. Although UNITA appeared to be cooperative in most areas, delays and difficulties persisted in the province of Bié, around the UNITA stronghold in Andulo and in Cuando Cubango province. In the diamond-producing north-eastern region, no verification has been conducted so far since UNITA insisted on regrouping its forces in one location instead of the three initially planned.

4. By 24 September, the five United Nations teams had conducted the verification exercise at 41 of the 42 locations envisaged, and the process at the remaining location is expected to be concluded by 27 September. As of 24 September, 3,867 UNITA residual elements of all categories had been verified and had handed over 3,317 weapons of various calibres and 46,532 types of ammunition. Of those weapons, only 56.5 per cent were found to be serviceable and in good condition, while 21.5 per cent were determined to be serviceable but in poor condition. Twenty-two per cent of the surrendered weapons were unserviceable. Furthermore, the ammunition surrendered amounted to an average of 11 rounds per rifle.

5. So far, no major artillery pieces or communication equipment have been handed over, except for six 82 mm mortars and 43 40 mm rocket launchers, casting further doubt on the credibility of the demilitarization exercise. While a thorough check of the verified troops is still ongoing, over 2,100 UNITA personnel remain to be processed by the United Nations. In addition, it is significant that no appreciable number of UNITA senior officers have been presented for demobilization. The Government and UNITA have recently held discussions concerning the future status of senior UNITA officers.

III. TRANSFORMATION OF RADIO VORGAN

6. On 1 September 1997, after protracted delays, UNITA notified the Government of Angola in writing that it would agree to use frequency modulation (FM) for the private radio station, which would be named "Rádio Despertar", to replace Radio Vorgan. UNITA received the Government's official response on 12 September, and indicated that it was undertaking the necessary technical studies in order to establish the new FM facility in major urban centres throughout the country. My Special Representative is urging the parties to expedite the setting up of this new non-partisan station.

7. In the meantime, MONUA has reported that Radio Vorgan has significantly decreased the broadcast of hostile propaganda. Some of its lead comments now seem to be more supportive of the demobilization process and national reconciliation. However, UNITA has recently resorted to a new practice of disseminating hostile propaganda from its offices abroad, especially those based in Bonn, Lisbon and Paris.

IV. NORMALIZATION OF STATE ADMINISTRATION

8. After the suspension of the normalization of State administration earlier in 1997, Mr. Beye, in collaboration with the representatives of the three observer States, undertook intensive consultations aimed at the earliest resumption of this crucial process. The consultations resulted in the adoption

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of a comprehensive plan on 18 August by the Central Inter-Sectoral Operational Group, the body responsible for supervising activities in this area. Similar groups were also established at the provincial level and are operational in 13 out of 15 targeted provinces. The normalization process, which involves a total of 139 localities, many of which are situated along major land routes and the country's international boundaries, resumed on 20 August, but is still experiencing delays. From the beginning of the overall process in April until 24 September, State administrators had been installed in only 79 localities, most of which are of little strategic importance. However, tentative agreement has been reached to extend the State administration to Negage, which is the base for UNITA headquarters in the northern region, and to Cuango, a major diamond-producing area. These agreements are yet to be implemented.

9. So far, the extension of State administration to UNITA-controlled areas has been hindered by logistical and political obstacles. It is imperative that UNITA extend its full cooperation for the orderly and expeditious achievement of this important aspect of the Lusaka Protocol. There is little doubt that the delay in extension of State administration to major strategic locations such as Andulo, Bailundo, Cuango, Mavinga and Negage is a result of political considerations. In some provinces, such as Bié, Huambo and Lunda Norte, UNITA has not extended its full cooperation to the process. The earliest extension of State administration to the diamond-rich province of Lunda Norte would be of particular significance, and MONUA is trying to arrange a meeting between UNITA representatives and the governor of the province. There have also been instances where UNITA militants have raised the issue of national symbols, such as the national anthem and flag, and have questioned the neutrality and actions of the national police. According to MONUA, however, except for a few occasions, the behaviour of the national police has been generally acceptable.

10. It should be acknowledged that, in some provinces, local government authorities, citing security reasons, have been cautious about establishing a presence in areas formerly under UNITA control. Moreover, the Government has emphasized the need to disarm UNITA elements wherever their presence has been declared before the extension of State administration takes place. MONUA is endeavouring to ensure that this is carried out wherever applicable. Logistical problems, such as poor communications and coordination between the parties, and often within their ranks, as well as the country's ravaged infrastructure and presence of landmines, have also contributed to delays in the implementation of the agreed timetable for the extension of State administration.

11. The general population has welcomed the normalization of State administration in the hope that it will lead to the improvement of their daily lives and to the free circulation of people and goods. Public awareness campaigns in support of this important exercise have helped to allay some of the concerns expressed by the people. In addition to participating in these activities, MONUA has also provided its good offices and logistical and security support to facilitate the smooth implementation of this crucial aspect of the Lusaka Protocol.

V. OBSERVATIONS

12. Since the adoption of Security Council resolution 1127 (1997) on 28 August 1997, the military situation in Angola has remained relatively calm and stable, as confirmed at the meeting of the Joint Commission on 23 September. On 24 September, my Special Representative met separately with President José Eduardo dos Santos and Mr. Jonas Savimbi to take stock of the progress made in the implementation of resolution 1127 (1997). During his discussion with Mr. Savimbi, Mr. Beye was assured that UNITA was determined to take further steps to comply with the provisions of the resolution.

13. However, the demilitarization of UNITA forces, which is a key provision of the Lusaka Protocol and an element critical to the success of the entire peace process, is not yet complete even though almost three years have passed since the signing of the agreement. MONUA and the observer States consider that the figure of 6,052 claimed by UNITA to be the total of its residual troops remains unconvincing. They are also of the view that the quality and quantity of weapons and ammunition surrendered to MONUA by these residual troops are insignificant.

14. At the same time, it must be recognized that some advances have been made towards the establishment of a non-partisan FM broadcast facility to replace Radio Vorgan, which has recently made tangible efforts to reduce the level of hostile propaganda. However, the final steps in this process are long overdue and expeditious actions are required.

15. With regard to the normalization of State administration, while a significant number of localities have been handed over to the Government during the past few weeks, no progress has been registered in the extension of government authority to the five strategically important areas mentioned in paragraph 9 above. In addition, the overall slow pace of the process continues to raise doubts about the intentions of UNITA.

16. In the circumstances, I have to state that, at the time of writing of the present report, I am not yet in a position to advise the Security Council that UNITA has taken the necessary steps to comply with all the obligations set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 of its resolution 1127 (1997). Such steps would have to include, in particular, the immediate provision by UNITA to the United Nations of credible and verifiable information about the strength of the residual armed elements and weapons, and to allow the State administration to be extended to strategically important areas of the country.

17. I urge the two Angolan parties, but in particular UNITA, to comply with all the provisions of Security Council resolution 1127 (1997) and to complete fully and without any further delay the implementation of the remaining tasks under the Lusaka Protocol. It is only on this basis that it will be possible to lead the peace process to a successful conclusion and to ensure genuine stability and national reconciliation in Angola. In the meantime, I shall continue to monitor developments closely and to bring to the attention of the Security Council any further progress that may be made towards meeting the goals of resolution 1127 (1997) on the peace process.
